

Appl. No. 10/648,040
Amdt. Dated April 30, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 81863.0020
Customer No.: 26021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification and claims 1-8 and 10-12 have been amended to correct minor errors. New claims 13-20 have been added. Claim 9 remains unchanged. Thus, claims 1-20 are presently pending in this application for consideration.

The amendments to the present application are made to place the application in better form and to place the application in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added. Entry and consideration of these amendments prior to the first Office Action are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

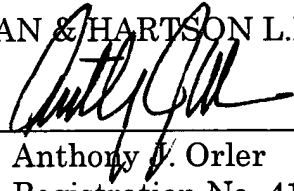
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6742 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: April 30, 2004

By: _____


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